## Georgia Child Support Commission Commission Meeting Judge R. Michael Key, Chair

Friday, November 4, 2022 2:00 p.m.

## **Meeting Summary**

The Georgia Child Support Commission ("Commission") held this meeting via videoconferencing using Zoom webinar. Nine (9) out of the fifteen (15) Commission members attended in total. Commission members in attendance were:

Judge R. Michael Key, ChairCharles C. "Chuck" Clay, Esq.Kathleen B. Connell, Esq.Senator Emanuel JonesRegina Quick, Esq.Rep. Bonnie RichChristina Scott, J.D.Dr. Roger TutterowJudge Connie L. Williford

Executive Program Manager Elaine Johnson, Staff Attorney Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez, and Program Coordinator, Latoinna Lawrence, served as staff for this meeting. Members of the public also attended this open meeting via the Zoom.

Chair Michael Key opened the meeting. Staff Attorney Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez noted a quorum of Commission members, and staff member Latoinna Lawrence gave a brief synopsis of how to navigate the hybrid meeting. The minutes from September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, were unanimously approved.

Co-Chair Connie Williford reported on the work of the Statute Review Subcommittee and reminded everyone that at the last Commission meeting, held on September 30, 2022, a motion was made and approved by the Commission to seek a resolution to establish a joint Legislative Study Committee on Parenting Time. Senator Brian Strickland and Representative Mandi Ballinger have said they plan to sponsor such a resolution in their respective chambers. A draft resolution was sent to Legislative Counsel, Holly Carter, by Staff Attorney Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez.. Co-Chair Williford also noted that, by the end of the year, staff anticipates finalizing a contract with Dr. Jane Venohr, Center for Policy Research, Inc., for guidance on possible changes to the Parenting Time and Low-Income Deviations.

Co-Chair Katie Connell gave further updates for the Statute Review Subcommittee. First, the Subcommittee continues to discuss the handling of extraordinary expenses outside the calculator. Second, that the Subcommittee is also discussing the "7% test" for special expenses for child-rearing. Third, they continue to discuss replacing the terms "custodial and noncustodial parent" in the statute and will conduct a short survey that will be distributed to the public for feedback. The Statute Review Subcommittee has two scheduled meetings for the remainder of the year, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Chair Regina Quick gave a brief update on the work of the Technology and Calculator Subcommittee. She reminded the Commission that staff is working with the AOC IT department to implement the change to the calculator that was approved by the Commission to allow the deletion of expired shared worksheets. Staff member Elaine Johnson is working with the AOC IT Department to determine a deployment date. Chair Quick shared that she has a new job. As of November 1, 2022, she is working

for the Department of Human Services as the Deputy Commissioner and General Council. She also provided her updated email address: <a href="mailto:Regina.quick@dhs.ga.gov">Regina.quick@dhs.ga.gov</a>. The Technology and Calculator Subcommittee has two scheduled meetings for the remainder of the year, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Chair Dr. Roger Tutterow gave a report on the Economic Subcommittee. The Subcommittee met on October 19<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the final draft of the 2022 Economic Study report prepared by Dr. Venohr. In the new year, staff will distribute the final report to the governor, the General Assembly, the Division on Child Support Services, and the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement, and lastly, the report will be placed on the Commission website. The Subcommittee recommended that when the new table is adopted, the highest amount of income in the Basic Child Support Obligation (BCSO) table should be increased to \$40,000 a month, up from the current \$30,000 maximum. The work of this Subcommittee has been completed, so no additional meetings have been scheduled, but may be called if needed.

Staff Attorney Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez spoke on the fact that since the Commission began conducting meetings using Zoom webinar and has been recording those meetings for the purpose of preparing meeting minutes, there have been occasions when the public has requested a copy of a recording. Ms. Lagueux-Alvarez shared with the Commission that it is her opinion that the Commission is subject to the Open Meetings Act and the Open Records Act regarding requests for a recording. She shared that staff complies with the Open Meetings Act by publishing the meeting agendas and minutes once approved by the Commission, a Subcommittees, Study Committees, or Workgroup. Dr. Roger Tutterow commented that the Commission should contact the Attorney General's Office for an opinion on this question. A motion was made by member Regina Quick for staff to proceed with steps needed to make the recordings available for the public. The motion was seconded by member Chuck Clay, and upon a vote of the members was unanimously approved. Judge Key ask Staff Attorney Lagueux-Alvarez to report an update on the request for an opinion from the Attorney General's office at the next meeting of the Commission.

Staff member Elaine Johnson gave a brief update that Commission staff is preparing a report on behalf of the Commission that covers the last four years of work activity of the Child Support Commission and its staff. The report will include other components as well and will be ready for publication in December 2022.

This meeting adjourned at approximately 2:43 p.m.